## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:	§	
	§	
ROYCE HOMES, L.P.,	§	CASE NO. 09-32467
	§	(Chapter 7)
DEBTOR.	§	
RODNEY TOW, TRUSTEE,	§	
	§	
PLAINTIFF,	§ § §	
	§	
VS.	§	ADVERSARY 11-3191
	§	
JOHN H. SPEER, AMEGY BANK, N.A.,	§	
AMEGY MORTGAGE COMPANY, LLC,	§	
MICHAEL MANNERS, DONNIE LOU	§	
SPEER, VESTALIA, LLC, HAMMERSMITH	§	
GROUP, LLC, F/K/A HAMMERSMITH	§	
GROUP, INC., PARK LAKE	§	
COMMUNITIES, LP, WATERMARK	§	
TORTUGA, LLC, ALLARD INVESTMENT	§	
COMPANY, LLC, DWM HOLDINGS, INC.,	§	
MGM MOTOR SPORTS, LLC, SARACEN	§	
HOLDINGS, INC., GEORGE KOPECKY,		
	§ §	
DEFENDANTS.	§	

# MOTION TO REQUIRE THE TRUSTEE TO REPLEAD HIS COMPLAINT TO COMPLY WITH RULE 7008 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF BANKRUPTCY PROCEDURE, ALTERNATIVELY MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO ANSWER

THIS MOTION SEEKS AN ORDER THAT MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE MOVING PARTY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE. IF YOU AND THE MOVING PARTY CANNOT AGREE, YOU MUST FILE AND SERVE YOUR RESPONSE AND SEND A COPY TO THE MOVING PARTY. YOU MUST FILE AND SERVE YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE THIS WAS SERVED ON YOU. YOUR RESPONSE MUST STATE WHY THE MOTION SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED. IF YOU DO NOT FILE A TIMELY RESPONSE, THE RELIEF MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE TO YOU. IF YOU OPPOSE THE MOTION AND HAVE NOT REACHED AN AGREEMENT, YOU MUST ATTEND THE HEARING. UNLESS THE PARTIES AGREE

1

999999.277/973260.1

OTHERWISE, THE COURT MAY CONSIDER EVIDENCE AT THE HEARING, AND MAY DECIDE THE MOTION AT THE HEARING. REPRESENTED PARTIES SHOULD ACT THROUGH THEIR ATTORNEYS.

COMES NOW, Hammersmith Group, LLC f,/k/a Hammersmith Group, Inc., ("Hammersmith") and Park Lake Communities, L.P. ("Park Lake") (collectively the "Defendants") and files their Motion to Require the Trustee to Replead his Complaint to Comply with Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Alternatively Motion for Extension of Time to Answer (the "Motion") and would state as follows:

- 1. On April 7, 2009, an Involuntary Petition was filed against Royce Homes, L.P. ("Royce Homes" or the "Debtor"). An Order for Relief was entered on April 30, 2009 (docket no. 11).
- 2. Rodney Tow was appointed as the Chapter 7 trustee (the "Chapter 7 Trustee") in the bankruptcy case.
- 3. On April 28, 2011, the Chapter 7 Trustee filed an adversary complaint (the "Complaint") against numerous defendants including Hammersmith and Park Lake.
- 4. The Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are very clear in that a complaint should be concise, short, and direct.
  - (a) CLAIM FOR RELIEF. A pleading that states a claim for relief must contain:
    - (1) a short and plain statement of the grounds for the court's jurisdiction, unless the court already has jurisdiction and the claim needs no new jurisdictional support;
    - (2) a short and plain statement of the claim showing that the pleader is entitled to relief;
    - (d) PLEADING TO BE CONCISE AND DIRECT; ALTERNATIVE STATEMENTS; INCONSISTENCY.

(1) In General. Each allegation must be simple, concise, and direct. No technical form is required.

F.R.B.P. 7008 (a)(1)(2) and (d)(1). F.R.C.P. 8.

- 5. The Complaint filed by the Chapter 7 Trustee, by any stretch of the imagination, cannot be called simple, concise, or direct with a short and plain statement. The Complaint, with exhibits is over 600 pages long. The Complaint, without the exhibits, is 156 pages long and includes 591 paragraphs.
- 6. The Court cannot expect each Defendant to answer each paragraph or defense as required in F.R.B.P. 7008 (b)(1)(A),(B)(2)(3)(4)(5) and (6)(c)(1). Just to review the 591 allegations listed in the Complaint takes hours and then responding to each allegation would take another several hours. There is insufficient time to be able to properly respond as required by the Rules to the voluminous Complaint.
- 7. The Court should require the Trustee to concisely and simply state the factual basis of his claim as to each defendant. The present complaint is convoluted and confusing as to the basis of relief as to each defendant.

#### **Motion for Extension of Time to Respond**

8. Hammersmith/Park Lake request that they be given an additional amount of time to respond to the allegations contained in Trustee's Complaint. Hammersmith/Park Lake believes that given an additional twenty-one days that they can properly respond to the Trustee's Complaint. Given the size of the Complaint an additional twenty-one days will not delay the proceedings and given the pleadings filed by other parties will not burden either the Trustee or other defendants.

WHEREFORE, premises considered, Hammersmith/Park Lake request that the Court require the Trustee to replead the Complaint or in the alternative grant them an additional three weeks to respond and grant them such other and further relief as is just.

Respectfully submitted on 31<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2011.

### HIRSCH & WESTHEIMER, P.C.

By: /s/ Michael J. Durrschmidt

Michael J. Durrschmidt State Bar No. 06287650 Michael S. Wilk State Bar No. 21478000 700 Louisiana, Suite 2550 Houston, Texas 77002 Telephone: (713) 220-9165

Facsimile: (713) 223-9319 mdurrschmidt@hirschwest.com

ATTORNEY IN CHARGE FOR DEFENDANT, HAMMERSMITH GROUP, LLC F/K/A HAMMERSMITH GROUP, INC.

### **Certificate Of Conference**

Counsel for Hammersmith/Park Lake requested an extension from the Trustee; however, the Trustee declined to grant an extension, although he stated he was not opposed to an extension.

> /s/ Michael J. Durrschmidt Michael J. Durrschmidt

### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify on the 31st day of May, 2011, a copy of the foregoing Motion to Require the Trustee to Replead his Complaint to Comply with Rule 7008 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, Alternatively Motion for Extension of Time to Answer was served via first class mail, postage prepaid, and/or via the Clerk of the Court through the ECF system to the following parties.

> /s/ Michael J. Durrschmidt Michael J. Durrschmidt

Rodney Tow Tow & Koenig, PLLC 26219 Oak Ridge Drive The Woodlands, Texas 77380

Erin E Jones Jones Morris LLP 6363 Woodway, Suite 570 Houston, Texas 77057

Julie Mitchell Koenig Tow and Koenig PLLC 26219 Oak Ridge Drive The Woodlands, Texas 77380

Michael Duncan Cage Hill & Niehaus 5851 San Felipe, Suite 950 Houston, Texas 77057

George R Gibson Nathan Sommers Jacobs PC 2800 Post Oak Blvd., 61<sup>st</sup> Floor Houston, Texas 77056

C Ed Harrell Steven Douglas Shurn Hughes Watters & Askanase 333 Clay, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, Texas 77002

Marc J. Magids David C. Martin Pascal Paul Piazza 1177 West Loop South, Suite 1100 Houston, TX 77027

Christopher D. Johnson McKool Smith, P.C. 600 Travis, Suite 7000 Houston, TX 77002

Peter Johnson Law Office of Peter Johnson 11 Greenway Plaza, Suite 2820 Houston, TX 77046

5

Steven Shurn Three Allen Center 333 Clay, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor Houston, TX 77002

Sacaren Holdings, Inc. c/o Michael Manners 17510 Red Oak Drive, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77090